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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/798,488	03/11/2004	Tomohiro Hamada	6639P012	6291

8791 7590 05/12/2005

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EXAMINER

PAPE, ZACHARY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2835

DATE MAILED: 05/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/798,488

Applicant(s)

HAMADA ET AL.

Examiner

Zachary M. Pape

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

1. Claims 7-20 withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 4/1/2005. Examiner has treated elected claims 1-6 on their merits as detailed in the proceeding action.

### ***Oath/Declaration***

2. Examiner notes applicants oath dated 3/11/2004. On page two (2) under "Prior Foreign Applications" applicant has checked the box, "Priority not claimed" when it appears that the applicant is in fact trying to claim priority of the March 2003 date.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kung et al. (US 6,317,314). With respect to claim 1, Kung et al. teaches the use of an electronic apparatus comprising: a housing (As illustrated in Fig 1) having a mounting portion (20, 50); and a reinforcing plate (10) configured to reinforce the mounting portion, wherein

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the reinforcing plate (10) has a frame (12) and coupling portions (111) surrounded by the frame, the coupling portions pass through a center of gravity of the reinforcing plate (The center of gravity of the reinforcing plate will pass through the coupling portions (111)) and a plurality of opening portions (112) are provided between the frame and the coupling portions.

With respect to claim 2, Kung et al. further teaches that the mounting portion (20, 50) includes a bottom wall (21) on which the input device is placed, the bottom wall has an inner surface located on an inner side of the housing (As illustrated in Fig 3), and the reinforcing plate (10) is stacked on the inner surface of the bottom wall.

With respect to claim 3, Kung et al. further teaches that the mounting portion includes a bottom wall (21) on which the input device is placed, the bottom wall has an opening portion (201) opening toward an inner side of the housing (As illustrated in Fig 3), and the reinforcing plate (10) is fitted in the opening portion (Via screws 30).

With respect to claim 4, Kung et al. further teaches that the opening portions (111) of the reinforcing plate are arranged radially from the center of gravity of the reinforcing plate (Openings 111 extend radially from the center of the X created by the peripheral portions 113).

With respect to claim 6, Kung et al. further teaches that the housing is formed of synthetic resin (Column 4, Lines 49-53) and the reinforcing plate is formed of metal (Column 3, Lines 66-67 – Column 4, Lines 1-2).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kung et al. in view of Kim (US 6,262,883). With respect to claim 5, Kung et al. fails to teach the use of a disk drive accommodated within the housing. Kim teaches a housing (19) accommodating a disk drive (30), a reinforcing plate (20a) is located to face the disk drive and a gap is provided between the reinforcing plate and the disk drive (Created by the bracket (40)). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the disk drive mounted within a housing as taught by Kim with the reinforcing plate and housing of Kung et al. to provide a means of mounting an auxiliary device in the housing without using any screws (Kim: Column 2, Lines 33-35). The use of an auxiliary device (disk drive) as taught by Kim further expands the capability of the computer system and housing of Kung et al.

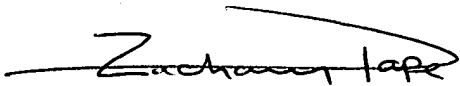
***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zachary M. Pape whose telephone number is 571-272-2201. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thur. & every other Fri. (8:00am - 5:00pm).

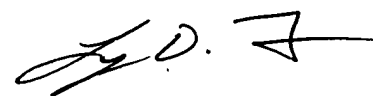
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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached at 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



ZMP



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